A G E N D A

Motion of Condolence

The Members of the Commission are aware of the sad loss to the world of History as also to the Commission by the demise of very distinguished and noted historians who have been associated with this Commission at one time or the other namely -(1) Prof. Rushbrook Williams, ex-Professor of History, University of Allahabad, U.P., (2) Dr. B.P.Saksena, Allahabad University, Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh and (3) Dr. D. Awasthi, Ravi Shankar University, Raipur, Madhya Pradesh.

Resolution: " The Members of the Indian Historical Records Commission assembled at Aurangabad for the 46th Session of the Commission deeply mourn the death of Prof. Rushbrook Williams, Dr. B.P.Saksena and Dr. D.Awasthi and resolve that sincere condolences of the Commission be conveyed to the next of their kin".

S.A.I.Tirmizi,
Secretary,
Indian Historical
Records Commission.

T.No. 383436

No.F.1/79-C
Indian Historical Records Commission,
National Archives of India,
Janpath,
New Delhi-110001,

Dated the 13 FEB 1981

Dear Prof. Dikshit,

I am glad to inform you that the Government of India has reconstituted the Indian Historical Records Commission. It is proposed to appoint you as a nominee of the Government of India on the Commission under para 3.B of the Constitution for a period of five years. (A copy of the constitution enclosed).

2. You are requested to communicate to me your formal consent by the return of post so as to enable me to issue necessary notification in this behalf.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(S.A.I.Tirmizi)

Prof.G.S.Dikshit,
1, Navodayanagar,
Dharwar-3 (Karnataka).

INDIAN HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION

CONSTITUTION
1974

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

CONSTITUTION OF THE INDIAN HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION 1974*

The Indian Historical Records Commission was set up by the Government of India in 1919 as a consulting body, whose opinion would carry weight with the public and which would make enquiries and recommendations regarding (i) treatment of archives for historical study (ii) the scale and plan on which the cataloguing, the calendaring and reprinting of each class of documents should be undertaken (iii) the sums required for encouraging research among, and publication of records, (iv) selection of competent scholars for editing documents, and (v) the problems of public access to records (Department of Education Resolution No. 77 21 March 1919). With a view to promoting active cooperation of the various State Governments in India as also the universities and learned institutions in the country in the activities of the Commission the Government of India by their Department of Education, Health and Lands Resolution No. F. 92-9/40-E, dated 13th September 1941 took steps to reform the constitution of the Commission providing for the inclusion in it of nominees of the various State Governments in India as also those of the universities and learned societies.

2. The Commission has since its inception held forty-two Sessions and has contributed significantly to the growth of public interest in the conservation and use of archives. The Government of India do recognise that it was through the initiative of the Commission and its different Committees that many new sources of information have been brought to light and saved for posterity, many collections of documents have been published and made accessible to scholars, facilities for the use of records have been materially enhanced and a new conscience has been aroused in the public mind in respect of the sanctity of historical evidence. While the Government of India note with deep appreciation these and other achievements of the Commission they do feel at the same time that much work still remains to be done and that a host of important problems are still awaiting to be attached. Many record-collections are still without any guides or hand-book let alone comprehensive descriptive lists and very few repositories, public or private, have yet developed a well-articulated programme of document-publication. Most of the collections still continue to be housed in primitive conditions and are subjected to the ravages of insect pests, molds and other destructive agents. Very little systematic effort has been made to survey, describe, organise or make use of records in private custody and particularly those of institutional, religious or commercial provenance Lack of trained archivists continues seriously to impede the archival work in the country and the training facilities available in the National Archives have hardly stimulated an adequate response among the owners of archival holdings. Government believe that these constitute very serious lacunae in the academic life of the nation and that greater and more whole-hearted cooperation between Keepers of records and historical materials on the one hand and their users on the other are the only means by which these deficiencies could be removed

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* Department of Culture Government of India. Resolution No. F. 22-1/74-CAI(2), dated 1 November 1974.

3. In order to promote such cooperation the Government of India in supersession of the Department of Culture Resolution No. 22-7/69-CAI(2) dated 10th March 1972 and all earlier Resolutions on the same subject, are pleased to sanction a reconstitution of the Commission on the following lines.

The Commission shall consist of the following members:

A. Ex-Officio Members	..	4
1. Minister for Education and Social Welfare Government of India.	..	President
2. Additional Secretary, Department of Culture, Government of India.	.	Member
3. Director of Archives, Government of India.	..	Secretary
4. Deputy Director of Archives, Government of India, dealing with the Commission.	..	Joint-Secretary
B. Nominees of the Government of India		20

They shall be eminent historians and archivists to be appointed by the Government of India on the basis of their specialised knowledge of the treatment of archives or their original contribution to the post 1600 period of Indian history.

C. Representatives of the Central Government and Semi-Government Institutions

1. Ministry of External Affairs New Delhi.

2. Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi.

3. Ministry of Defence, New Delhi.

4. Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms, Cabinet Secretariat, New Delhi.

5. University Grants Commission, New Delhi.

6. Department of Culture (Gazetteers Unit) New Delhi.

7. Socio Economic Research Institute, Pre-Census Population Studies Unit, Indian Statistical Institute, 203, Barrackpore Trunk Road, Calcutta.

D. 1 Representatives of State Governments/ Union Territories

One nominee each of the State Governments/ Union Territories having an organised record repository of its own the nominee being invariably the custodian of Archives of the State/Union Territory.

2 Regional Records Survey Committee

One representative each of various Regional Records Survey Committees from States/. Union Territories having no organised record repository

E Representatives of Universities teaching Post-1600 period of Indian History

One nominee each from every such University in India teaching post-1600 period of Indian History and encouraging research among, and publication of, original records and cooperating with the Commission in organising its own archives and in conducting survey and exploration of records, in private and semi-public custody as mentioned hereunder.

(1) Agra University (2) Aligarh Muslim University (3) Allahabad University (4) Andhra University (5) Annamalai University (6) Awadesh Pratap Singh University (7) Banaras Hindu University (8) Bangalore University (9) Berhampur University (10) Bhagalpur University (11) Bhopal University (12) Bihar University (13) Bombay University (14) Burdwan University (15) Calcutta University (16) Delhi University (17) Dibrugarh University (18) Gauhati University (19) Gorakhpur University (20) Gujarat University (21) Gujarat Vidyapith (22) Guru Nanak University (23) Himachal Pradesh University (24) Indore University (25) Jabalpur University (26) Jadavpur University (27) Jamia Millia University (28) Jammu University (29) Jawaharlal Nehru University (30) Jiwaji University (31) Jodhpur University (32) Karnataka University (33) Kashi Vidyapith (34) Kashmir University (35) Kerala University (36) Kurukshetra University (37) Lucknow University (38) Madras University (39) Magadh University (40) The Maharaja Sayajirao University (41) Marathwada University (42) Meerut University (43) Mysore University (44) Nagpur University, (45) North Bengal University (46) Osmania University (47) Panjab University (48) Patna University (49) Poona University (50) Punjabi University (51) Rabindra Bharati University (52) Rajasthan University (53) Ravishankar University (54) Sagar Univer-

sity, (55) Sambalpur University, (56) Sardar Patel University, (57) Saurashtra University, (58) Shivaji University, (59) Sri Venkateswara University, (60) Udaipur University, (61) Utkal University, (62) Vikram University, (63) Visva-Bharati.

F. Representatives of Learned Institutions 9

1. Indian History Congress.

2. Asiatic Society, Calcutta.

3. Asiatic Society, Bombay.

4. Bharata Itihasa Samshodhaka Mandala Poona.

5. Gokhale Research Institute of Politics and Economics, Poona.

6. Indian Institute of Advanced Studies, Simla.

7. Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi.

8. Indian Council of Historical Research, New Delhi.

9. Institute de Chandernagor, Chandernagore (West Bengal)

G. Corresponding Members.

The selection of Members in this category will be confined to persons residing outside India and actively interested in records, only published work of sufficient merit being accepted as evidence of such interest. The Corresponding Members are to be selected and appointed by the Government of India

4. The Government of India desire that nominees of the State Governments should be persons thoroughly conversant with archives and archival techniques and that the nominees of universities, learned institutions and other research bodies should be men of academic distinction with considerable amount of original research work on the history of India of the post-1600 period to their credit. The nominees of all these bodies will become members of the Commission after their nominations have been notified by the Government of India.

5. I. The Members of the Commission, other than ex-officio Members and also all the Corresponding Members of the Commission will be appointed for a term of five years as follows:-

(1) All appointments and re-appointments for a full term of five years will be made en-bloc with effect from the same date but on the expiry of their terms, the members concerned will be eligible for reappointment.

(2) Vacancy due to resignation or otherwise which may occur within the period of five years will not be filled for a full term of five years but only for the unexpired portion of the term.

II. The scope of the Commission's activities shall be limited to the following:

(1) To act as a forum for exchange between creators custodians and users of archives and historical documents, of ideas and experiences relating to treatment, preservation and use of archives, and to make recommendations to appropriate bodies, official or non-official, in this behalf.

(2) To act as a forum for discussion on archives in relation to historical problems requiring investigation, particularly in relation/those / to on which little or no work has been done, and to hold academic session. At this academic session, papers based on newly discovered original records pertaining to the post-1600 period of Indian History be read and discussed. These papers should be written either by the Members of the Commission or communicated through them if written by other scholars. All such papers should be circulated in advance after getting them approved by an Editorial Committee to be constituted for the purpose

(3) To promote the salvaging and use of materials in private and semi-public custody (including institutional, religious and business records) in collaboration with universities, libraries, museums, learned societies and particularly with the Regional Records Survey Committees and similar local bodies and to act as a clearing house of information on the work done in this field.

(4) To act generally as an intermediary between record and historical manuscript repositories on the one hand and bodies interested in research on the other.

(5) To publish proceedings and bulletins embodying reports on its activities and on other matters promoting its objective

III. The Commission shall normally meet once a year, a place rich in archival materials being selected as the venue Each session should include

(1) A public meeting devoted to the report to be presented by the Secretary on the archival progress in the country

(2) A business meeting for the discussion of the Secretary's report as also the problems relating to keeping and use of archives that may be referred to it by the members, and for review of programmes undertaken by different bodies under its auspices.

(3) Academic session for reading and discussion of papers based on original records pertaining to the post-1600 period of Indian History. Such sessions shall be opened to the interested public

Corresponding Members will be entitled to participate in all the meetings of the Commission except its business meetings which they may attend only by special invitation.

The Commission's meetings are to be presided over by the ex-officio President. He shall, however, have the right to nominate a senior member to act as President in his absence.

6. Standing Committee:

The Commission may appoint one or more Committees to deal with the particular problems requiring investigation. Such Committees shall submit their reports to the Commission

The Government of India shall set up a Standing Committee with the following composition and functions·

I. Composition:

(a) Additional Secretary, Department of Culture.	Ex-officio Chairman
(b) Twelve Members of the Commission to be nominated by the Government of India for a term of two years. The members shall be eligible for renomination.	
(c) Director of Archives Government of India	Ex-officio Secretary
(d) Deputy Director of Archives Government of India dealing with the Commission.	Ex-officio Joint Secretary

II. Functions:

The Standing Committee will review the action taken from time to time on the recommendations made by the Indian Historical Records Commission, consider all reports and items referred to it and express its views on the agenda for the Commissions meeting and perform such other functions as the Government of India or the President of the Commission may assign to it It will ordinarily meet twice a year.

7 The travelling allowances of the ex-officio President, Additional Secretary Department of Culture (ex-officio Chairman of the Standing

Committee), Secretary and Joint-Secretary of the Commission and the nominees of the Government of India (referred to in para 3.B above) as well as Members of the Standing Committee [referred to in para 6.I(b) above] will be a charge on the Central Revenues. The ex-officio President Additional Secretary, Secretary and Joint Secretary and such nominees of Government of India (referred to in para 3.B above) and such members of the Committee as are Government Servants will draw travelling allowances as on tour for attending the meetings of the Commission, or its Committees, and the expenditure will be debitable to the same head as their pay.

8. Non-officials appointed by the Government of India as Members and non-official Members of the Standing Committee will draw travelling allowances for attending meetings of the Commission or its Committees at rates admissible to Grade I Officers of the Central Government and daily allowance at the highest rate admissible to Grade I Officers of the Central Government for respective localities. The expenditure will be met from the budget grant of the National Archives of India The State Governments, the Universities and other constituent institutions will be required to bear the travelling allowances of their nominees. The travelling allowance and daily allowance for non-official members other than Central Government nominees, who may be appointed to serve on any Committee of the Indian Historical Records Commission will be paid at the same rate as those of non-official members appointed by the Central Government as Ordinary Members.

Three copies
Dr G.S. Dikshit
Retd Professor of History
Karnatak University

Swasti:
Navodayanagar
Dharwar
580003
28.7.79

Dear Sir,

Please refer to your letter of 14 Jun 1979 asking me to send Resolutions for inclusion in the agenda for the 47th Session of the SHRC. I am herewith sending two resolutions.

Yours sincerely
G S Dikshit

should obtain microfilm copies of the records pertaining to the Indian Colony in Astrakhan (in U.S.S.R), which are available in the Central State Archives of Ancient Documents in Moscow, U.S.S.R

Explanatory Note:-

Note The Indian Colony in Astrakhan on the Caspian sea at the mouth of the River Volga was in a flourishing condition in the period from the Seventeenth to the nineteenth Century. ~~[illegible]~~ It was an offshoot of the Indian merchants in Persia. It consisted of a few hundred families permanently settled there. They carried on wholesale trade especially in cotton cloth. ~~They also carried on money lending activities. Besides merchants, there were vaidyas and other artisans.~~ The Indian community was known not only for its business acumen, but also for its probity. The community languished in the second half of the nineteenth century when Czarist Russia gave up its policy of encouraging trade with the East ~~Oriental trade in Oriental methods~~ in preference to trade with the West.

So far no Indian scholar has made use of these records in U.S.S.R relating to this colony and also to trade between India and Central Asia in early modern times. To encourage such a study, it is necessary to have copies of these records in the National Archives.

Resolution No. 2.

~~Resolved that the Indian Historical Records Commission should set up a committee to make a list of religious institutions of national importance which have archives and to suggest ways and means of making these archives available for study.~~

Resolved that a committee be set up by the Indian Historical Records Commission to make a list of religious institutions of national importance which have archives [illegible] the

Explanatory Note :- Many religious institutions of Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, Jains etc have their records which go back to early modern times or even earlier. To take only three examples, the Sringeri Math records go back to the fourteenth century and those of the Parthagali Math in Goa and Jangamvadi Math in Varanasi go back to the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries respectively. The records of these and similar institutions are of national importance as they fill the gap in our knowledge of political, religious, social and economic matters. Unless a systematic attempt is made to preserve these records, they will be lost for ever. Hence the urgent necessity to locate them in the first instance and then to make arrangements for their preservation and study.

G. J. Dikshit.

July 28, 1979

Dear Sir,

Please refer to your letter of 14th June, 1979 asking me to send Resolutions for inclusion in the agenda for the 47th session of the IHRC. I am herewith sending two resolutions.

Yours sincerely,

(G.S.Dikshit)

Encl: 1.

July 28, 1979

Dear Sir,

Please refer to your letter of 14th June, 1979 asking me to send Resolutions for inclusion in the agenda for the 47th session of the IHRC. I am herewith sending two resolutions.

Yours sincerely,

(G.S.Dikshit)

Encl: 1.

Resolved that

The Indian Historical Records Commission ~~[illegible]~~ ~~National Archives~~ to setting a committee to make a list of religious institutions of National Importance which have archives

Explanatory Note:- ~~Note~~ Many religious institutions of Hindus, Muslims, Jains, ~~Buddhists~~ & Sikhs ~~and~~ have their records ~~which~~ go back to early modern times or even earlier. To take only a few examples the Sringeri Math records go back to the 14th century. The Jangam wadi math records in Banaras go to the time of Shah Jahan. The Portugali Math records in Goa which take us to the 16th c. The records of these and similar religious institutions are of national importance as they fill the gap in our knowledge of political, religious, social and economic matters. ~~unless a systematic~~ attempt is made to preserve these records they will be lost forever. As a 1st step to preserve them, we have to locate the ~~[illegible]~~ religious institutions which have valuable archives. And after locating them, ~~if we find them~~ attempts should be made to preserve them. A committee of the NHRC containing representatives of all the important religious should be setting to locate religious institutions having valuable ~~[illegible]~~ records.

4 JUN 1979

No.F. 3/79-C
Indian Historical Records Commission
(National Archives of India)
Janpath
New Delhi-1

Dated the:

To

All the Members of the Indian Historical Records Commission.

Subject: Indian Historical Records Commission — 47th Session — Resolutions for inclusion in the Agenda —

...

Sir,

The 47th Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission is likely to be held sometime towards the close of this year or beginning of the next year. I am therefore to request you that in case you were wanting to move any resolution(s) on the occasion, you should send a copy of your resolution(s), to reach us latest by Ist August 1979 so as to enable us to include it in the Agenda for the Session.

2. Your suggestions may kindly be framed in the forms of resolutions and may be sent to this Department in duplicate along with a suitable explanatory note. In case, however, we do not get any response from you within the stipulated period, it would be assumed that you have no specific resolution to move.

3. The date and venue of the Session of the Commission will be intimated to you as and when finalized.

Yours faithfully,

(S.N. SHARMA)
for Secretary
Indian Historical Records Commission

OM-KRP.

INDIAN HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION

46TH SESSION - 1979

A G E N D A

I. Discussion on Secretary's Report

II. Conspectus of action taken on previous resolutions and recommendations of the Commission (40th-45th Sessions)

(Please see pp.19

III. RESOLUTIONS BY THE MEMBERS

A. Preservation of important newspapers in the Central/State Archives

1. Resolution by Shri Tara Sharan Sinha

"Resolved that at least two sets of important Newspapers (under publication or out of publication) be centralised in Central/State Archives for their use as contemporary source material.

It is further resolved that every archival organisation should subscribe on regular basis important Newspapers in English and in other languages popular in their region and such papers for preservation should be intact and no clippings should be done for whatsoever purposes.

Also resolved that where old copies of Newspapers are not available the Central/State archival organisations should purchase from the available sources or on transfer from Government Offices if they have."

Explanatory Note: The importance of Newspapers as a source of information of important events/incidents/ occurences as well as for their views on contemporary events/matters has been universally recognised. The news-items, the feature articles, letters to the editor or the editorials themselves speak of the mind and mood both of the contemporary Government and the people. In other words the programme, policy, lines of action proposed or adopted by the Government or the feeling and aspirations of the public are conveyed to the world through journalistic lenses and the filter glasses. It is for this reason that efforts are being made to preserve old issues of important Newspapers. For example, by Resolution V of the 30th Meeting (New Delhi, July, 1960) the Research and Publication Committee recommended that "the Union and the State Governments be requested to issue necessary instructions to the administrative Departments under them not to destroy the old newspapers, gazettes, books etc. in their libraries without consulting the officers-in-charge of Archives Offices". The same spirit is reflected in Resolution VI of the 37th (New Delhi, October, 1966) Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission, which recommended for the preservation of the volumes of all important newspapers and periodicals published from Goa whether they be still current or defunct. But there is not a clear cut policy resolution for the centralisation of the collection of important newspapers at one place, (i.e. archival repositories) on permanent basis for use by research scholars. It is, therefore,

necessary that a uniform policy be adopted for centralisation of atleast two sets of important newspapers in archival organisations so that if for one reason or other one set becomes unworkable the other is readily available for use. Moreover, these should not be damaged by cutting and removing any part of any particular issue for any sort of reference work. If the archival organisation is not subscribing either current newspaper or does not possess back issues either of the current or defunct papers, necessary funds should be provided to fill up the gaps.

Standing Committee's views: Preservation of newspaper files and clippings do not come, strictly speaking, under the perview of Archive institutions. There are various research institutions, libraries etc. which preserve the important newspapers. Besides, the newspaper offices themselves maintain backfiles.

B. Publication of a compendium of the Indian Historical Records Commission Resolutions

2. Resolution by Shri Tara Sharan Sinha

"Resolved that a compendium of all the Resolutions approved by the Indian Historical Records Commission in its past sessions be published for the convenience of its members. This compendium be edited with short notes giving in nutshell the position of their implementation in Centre/State alongwith references to earlier and latter resolutions on a particular subject."

Explanatory Note: It is generally observed that once resolutions are passed in a particular session of the Indian Historical Records Commission, they are published in the proceedings volume of that particular session with information regarding the follow up actions in a few of the subsequent proceedings volumes. There being no consolidated compendium of past resolutions, it is rather difficult to get an idea of the action taken on them and at times very often they lapse without being fully implemented for one reason or the other or are pushed out of the memory of the members of the Indian Historical Records Commission. New members are particularly handicapped for want of the same. It, therefore, looks pertinent that a compendium is prepared.

Standing Committee's views: A compendium of the Resolutions of the Indian Historical Records Commission covering the years 1919-1948 was published in 1949. Part II of this compendium pertaining to years 1948-1973 is now under print.

C. Preservation of journals in Indian languages

3. Resolution by Dr. Durgaprasad Bhattacharya

"The Indian Historical Records Commission hereby appeals to learned societies, research institutions and State Governments to take special steps to preserve and maintain journals in Indian languages published during the nineteenth century and requests the Members of the Commission to take an initiative in the matter whenever possible.

Resolved further that the Union Ministry of Education be requested to initiate a move in this direction to preserve this important source of history by micro filming from abroad if necessary.

The Indian Historical Records Commission resolves to extend its co-operation to all concerned."

Explanatory Note: Recently, a project was undertaken by the Socio-Economic Research Institute, Calcutta, to index and analyse economic writings in Bengali. It was found that about 50 per cent. (or more) of volumes of journals and periodicals is totally missing. Among the rest, most of the volumes are in a very shattered condition. These journals are very important source material of history. The Bangiya Sahitya Parishad and the National Library possess the largest holdings. It is presumed that journals in other languages also deserve a similar treatment. The Documentation Centre of the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) has been trying to catalogue available holdings. It is equally important to maintain and preserve these important sources of history.

Standing Committee's views: It has been the policy and plan scheme of the National Archives of India to acquire from abroad microfilm/xerox copies of material bearing on modern Indian History irrespective of their being newspapers, journals, letters etc. Other institutions may be encouraged to do the same, provided duplication is avoided. The Government of India may lend its weight in this behalf.

D. Provision for a separate research room for the research scholars in the State Archives

4. Resolution by Shri J. Tewari

"Resolved that provision for a separate Research Room be made for Research Scholars in State Archives in order to facilitate their research work as well as to improve the working condition of the personnel of the State Archives".

Explanatory Note: Utilisation of records in the Archives by the different Research Scholars coming both from India and abroad, is one of the important activities of any Archives. The Research Scholars come to the Archives in order to consult records bearing on their respective subjects of research. They have to finish their project within a certain specified period. They cannot work well and utilise their time properly unless there is suitable seating accommodation and environment for them. In this regard the Research Room of the National Archives of India may be considered to be an ideal. It has become all the more imperative in view of the fact that with the introduction of M. Phil by the University Grants Commission, and dissertation programme by certain Universities as well as greater importance attached to Ph.D., and research work in the field of teaching lines, the number of Research Scholars has automatically multiplied, and would go on increasing. To accommodate a number of Research Scholars and the personnel jointly at one very little space does not appear to be suitable to either of them. So even in the absence of a separate Archival Building which may be

practically a time-taking affair, some suitable accommodation with requisite amenities in proportion to the average number of Research Scholars may be separately arranged.

It is, therefore, requested that the Indian Historical Records Commission may consider this difficulty, and recommend to the State Governments for making provision for a separate Research Room for Research Scholars which would be highly beneficial not only in the interests of the Research Scholars, and the personnel of the Archives, on the contrary this would serve the pious cause of learning as a whole in its manifold facets.

Standing Committee's views: This resolution relates to matters of administration and as such should be the concern of the respective State/Central Government.

E. Incentive for training in Archives-Keeping

5. Resolution by Shri J. Tewari

"Resolved that both the National Archives of India and the State Archives be requested to make provision for better emoluments in the form of advance increments, special allowance, better pay-scales, promotions, etc. to the personnel after obtaining Training in Archives-Keeping in order to give encouragement for joining the training, as well as for better performance of archival duties later on".

Explanatory Note: The National Archives of India has been doing a very commendable service to the cause of the Archives in general by imparting training in Archives-Keeping since 1947, for which there is provision for conferring Diploma, First Class and Pass, according to the performance of the trainees in the examination concerned. The fullfledged syllabus is based on the model of the Archives in the progressive countries of the West. For this training both private candidates from outside as well as candidates sponsored by the State Archives are taken in. Besides, One Year Diploma Course, there is a Short Term Course also. After undergoing the arduous Training of Diploma in Archives-Keeping for one year, and leading a hard life in Delhi, the Archivists and other Officers get no encouragement in any form, whatever the brilliant result might be. The result is that on successful completion of the training, the Officers feel discouraged. It has been seen that they remain where they were. If the matter is taken on comparative basis, it becomes not only all the more abundantly clear but pitiable also for the Archivists. In all other organisations there is adequate provision for such performances. To cite a few examples, in Secondary Education, there is provision of incentive in the form of allowance, and better pay scale for Dip-in-Ed. Then again in Higher Education also, a suitable allowance is awarded for Ph.D. and the promotion of Reader and Professor, and now even the appointment of the Lecturers is defined on that score.

Now the training in the National Archives of India, New Delhi, is being organised on comprehensive lines. In order to attract good candidates from outside as well as amply experienced and qualified personnel from the State Archives, it appears quite logical to award incentive in the form of advance increments, allowances, better pay-scales, promotions, etc. This would go a long way in furtherance of the cause of Archival Development. Of course there should be demarcation between the One Year Diploma and Short term course so far awarding of incentives is concerned. The merit of those who achieve brilliant success in One Year Diploma Course should be recognised on higher pedestal, so that the future candidates might get inspiration from the due encouragement, rendered by the Government. In a nutshell, due recognition of the Diploma in Archives-Keeping and encouragement for it, appears to be essential for the cause of Archival development as well.

Standing Committee's views: This resolution relates to matters of administration and as such should be the concern of the respective State/Central Government.

F.- Creation of Cadre posts in the State Archives

6. Resolution by Shri J. Tewari

"Resolved that keeping in view the main tenets of Public Administration, and main ingredients of Organisational set-up of an institution, the State Governments be requested to streamline Cadre posts in the State Archives in order to give time bound promotions to the personnel

working there by way of incentive as well as to put the Archives on sound footing by providing it better organisational pattern."

Explanatory Note: From many angles the Archives is a very important organisation. It is closely interlinked with Administration, History, Culture, and all Departments. Keeping in view the arduous, highly technical as well as Administrative nature of the work, highly qualified persons are recruited, the basic qualification being Second Class M.A. in History. In the absence of the Cadre posts and avenue of promotion in the State Archives, a person, for example, once recruited as an Archivist, remains an Archivist throughout his career, however, qualified he might be. This is a unique thing quite contrary to other services which is disadvantageous both to the personnel working in the Archives, and the Archives itself. It leads to discontentment and discouragement, as he has to work on the same post throughout and that too on less scale of pay as compared to that of the equivalent nature of jobs. It is worth mentioning that in all branches of service there is provision for Cadre Posts.

On the other hand, in the absence of Cadre Posts, no organisation can function properly on sound footing due to lack of co-ordination which is the essential feature of Administrative fabric. As a result of such a lacuna, there are Administrative inconveniences as well which hamper the cause of Archival Development. In fact,

sound Organisational set-up is the very kernel of any Administrative fabric. It would, therefore, be a befitting thing to streamline suitable Cadre Posts in the State Archives in order to safeguard the interest of the personnel working there and to serve the cause of Archival Organisations. By doing so there would be an additional advantage as well. Persons not only highly qualified but also of consistently good academic career would feel attracted to join the Archival service.

Standing Committee's views: This resolution relates to matters of administration and as such should be the concern of the respective State/Central Government.

G. Revision of pay-scales in the National Archives of India.

7. Resolution by Shri J. Tewari

"Resolved that keeping in view the recent University Grants Commission Pay-Scales for the University Service, the Government of India be requested to revise the scales of pay prevalent in the National Archives of India, New Delhi, in order to give similar facilities to the personnel working there, and at the same time to attract persons of good academic career and attainments in future".

Explanatory Note: The National Archives of India is not only the best Archival institution in the whole of Asia but also one of the leading and best in the Western Countries. It is the ideal pattern on which the State Archives are organised. Its activities are

of utmost significance from administrative, historical and cultural points of view. The Research Scholars, and University Professors both from India and abroad come to consult records bearing on their respective subjects of research, and the Archivists and Senior Officers feed them with relevant materials, and render necessary guidance as well. Thus the nature of the work assigned to the Archivists is not only highly technical, but scholarly, and Administrative as well which require hard labour, higher education, and high proficiency. This necessitates decent pay scales in order to attract men of high calibre to this crucial profession. It is worth mentioning in this context that the pay-scales of Lecturers, Readers, and Professors in the Universities have been recently revised by the University Grants Commission which are on much higher level. Keeping this problem in view, the Government of India may be requested to consider the matter.

Standing Committee's views: This resolution relates to matters of administration and as such should be the concern of the respective State/Central Government.

H. Preservation of records of the erstwhile Princely States.

8. Resolution by Shri J.K. Jain

"Resolved that the records of historical importance which have been retained by the former rulers, thikanedars, jagirdars and officials be preserved (in situ) by the concerned State Archives".

Explanatory Note: As the Members of the Commission are aware of the fact that soon after Independence and the amalgamation of various former States in the Union of India quite a siz able bulk of records was retained by the former rulers, jagirdars and officials on the plea that these records were of their personal use and related to their property, etc. Since then it has been found out that in most of the cases these people have lost interest in these records and have been lying with them uncared. At the same time due to sentimental reasons they are not willing to part with these also. Under the circumstances the best course would be that all such collections which are open for the survey scheme or owners are willing to get their collections preserved, be preserved in their respective premises by the concerned State Archives. No doubt it may amount to an additional work for the concerned State Archives and some financial burden too in term of insecticides, etc., but this will definitely win the hearts of all such owners who in turn may be more co-operative and helpful in making their collections available for survey and research. Otherwise, in view of the existing financial position and interest of most of the owners the future of such collections is rather uncertain.

Standing Committee's views: These problems have been discussed time and again at the previous sessions of the Commission. The enactment of an Archival Law in respect of records of National Importance which is under the consideration of the Government, will take care of such problems.

I. Microfilming of records of Parthagali Math

9. Resolution by Dr. G.S.Dikshit

"In view of the fact that the Records of Parthagali Math in Goa will throw light on the relations of the Math, with the Adil Shahi, Maratha, Portuguese and other contemporary powers and also on the religious, social and economic conditions during the last three centuries and therefore are of national importance, the Indian Historical Records Commission recommends that these records should be microfilmed by the National Archives of India and thus preserved for all times and also be made available to research students in Goa and Delhi".

Explanatory Note: Dr. G.H. Khare on a previous occasion has brought to the notice of this Commission the value of the Parthagali Math records. Quite recently, Dr. S.V.Desikachar has examined these records and has said that they are as valuable as the records of the Sringeri Math. The National Archives has already microfilmed the Sringeri records, with the co-operation of the Karnataka State Archives. In the same way, the Parthagali records which are in Persian and Marathi etc. also need to be microfilmed with the co-operation of the State Archives of Goa and the microfilm copies should be made available to research students in the National Archives and in the Goa State Archives.

Standing Committee's views: The Resolution can be supported though the National Archives of India will have to consider many factors including its existing commitments and the financial implications, before undertaking its implementation.

Summarise Khare's suggestions verbatim

J. Setting up of Archival Repositories

10. Resolution by Prof. G.H.Khare

"This meeting of the Indian Historical Records Commission strongly recommends that the States and centrally administered territories which have no Records Offices should immediately establish their own Records Offices and began to collect and conserve Records of historical and cultural value in addition to the current administrative records which may come to their repositories.

Explanatory Note: In the Union Republic of India there are now about 26* States and centrally administered territories. For the last 3 or 4 years or even before we have been urging the various States and Territories to organize their Records Offices. Still the response is not satisfactory. Even the State of Madhya Pradesh has not as yet organised its Records Office though there is every possibility of getting old Records from the merged states of Indore, Gwalior and other Central Indian States. Therefore, this reiteration of the Resolution.

*(sic)

Standing Committee's views: The Indian Historical Records Commission has already passed resolutions recommending that the States/Union Territories should set up their own Archival Repositories on Modern scientific lines as early as possible (Resolution III, 34th Session and Resolution V, 44th Session).

Out of 22 States and 9 Union Territories 18 States and 3 Union Territories, Delhi, Goa and Pondicherry, have their own Archives Departments. Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Sikkim and Nagaland have set up their archival repositories in recent years, though their progress has not been quite satisfactory. Meghalaya, Manipur, Tripura, Himachal Pradesh and Andaman & Nicobar are exploring possibilities of setting up of their own Archives. To expedite matters the Commission's earlier Resolutions can be reiterated.

K. Teaching of Record Languages

11. Resolution by Dr. S.N. Prasad, Secretary, Indian Historical Records Commission:

"Mindful of the vital importance and large volume of old records extant in the oriental languages like Persian written in Shikasta script, Modi, Marathi, old Rajasthani, Tamil, Oriya, etc., the Commission urges the Government of India, the State Governments, the archival repositories and the universities to provide facilities and incentives urgently for the study of these languages and scripts."

In my univ. we have a dept of Ancn 20 yrs + Epigraphy + the Epigraphy branch has a diploma course which includes epigraphy + palaeography or the various developments in scripts or epigraphs. I have suggested that our epigraphy prog. that they should include the study of our local history to the changes in scripts written on paper in the early and later times 17th to 19th

Explanatory Note: Most of the records concerning the Medieval period found in the various repositories are in Persian, Rajasthani, Marathi, Portuguese, Tamil, etc. Such records are couched in scripts which cannot easily be deciphered and historians have expressed great concern at the fast declining talents in deciphering such scripts. It is, therefore, high time that the concerned authorities should promote teaching of such languages and scripts and provide necessary incentives, if research in our country is to remain record-oriented, and based on original sources.

the height of inner worthy. He has appeared to said. Such courses may be started wherever epigraphy is taught

L. Criterion for Institutional Membership of the Commission

12. Resolution by Shri S.A.I. Tirmizi, Joint Secretary, Indian Historical Records Commission:

"Resolved that institutional representation on the Indian Historical Records Commission be generally confined to such institutions as (a) scientifically preserve historical records and throw them open for research, (b) undertake research on and publication of such records and (c) promote and finance historical research based on original sources".

Explanatory Note: In the absence of specific constitutional provision or guidelines, some difficulty has been faced in nominating institutions on the Commission. Some clear criteria are, therefore, desirable for making such nominations on an objective basis. In view of the fact that the Commission, from its very inception, has mainly been concerned with conservation, utilization and publication of historical records in public and private custody, the criteria suggested in the above Resolution appears appropriate, unless the Commission prefers some other criteria.

Conspectus of action on previous Resolutions and Recommendations of the Indian Historical Records Commission

(40th to 45th Session)

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Conspectus of action on previous Resolutions and Recommendations of the Indian Historical Records Commission (40th to 45th Session)

Further to the information placed before the Commission at its 45th and earlier sessions on the resolutions and recommendations of the 40th to 45th Sessions, replied received from the State Governments, Universities, Learned Institutions and others are summarised below:

I. Resolutions of the 40th Session, Madras, 18th-20th February, 1970.

Resolution VIII: The Commission resolves that to facilitate the consultation of records preserved by them the Records Repositories of the State Governments be requested to prepare and publish consolidated guides to their pre-Independence records.

Orissa: The resolution has been accepted in principle. Five volumes of 'Guide to Orissan' Records' have been published and Volume VI of this series is in the press.

Sikkim: As the State Archives has been recently started and is being organised the resolution is still under consideration of the Government.

Assam: As it is not the usual practice of this Records Repository to bring out any publication of its records, it may take sometime to implement the resolution. The matter will be taken up with the Government. It is also felt, that the question is inter-linked with the setting up of State Archives, which has not yet come into existence. However, the proposal for setting up of a State Archives has already been initiated.

Resolution IX: To facilitate genuine research work at the State Archives, the Commission resolves to recommend to the State Governments to dispense with the scrutiny of excerpts taken by research scholars from all 'open' records.

Orissa: The resolution has been accepted and the scrutiny of excerpts taken by the research scholars from all 'open' records is now not necessary.

Sikkim: As the State Archives has been recently started and is being organised, the resolution is still under consideration of the Government.

Resolution XIII: The Commission resolves to recommend to the State Governments that the records of the National Movement, especially from 1885-1947, in the custody of the offices of the Home Department and other Offices/ Departments and quasi-Government Offices may be transferred to the State Archives and thrown open for research where this has not been done already.

Karnataka: The Government have been requested to consider the question of transferring the records relating to Freedom Movement for preservation.

West Bengal: All the non-confidential papers upto 1947, relating to the National Movement are thrown open to research scholars and all the confidential papers upto 1945 relating to National Movement have also been transferred from Home Political Department to this Archives and are thrown open to the researchers.

Sikkim: As the State Archives has been recently started and is being organised, the resolution is still under consideration of the Government.

Resolution XV: The Commission resolves that the National Archives be requested to procure and preserve copies of Annual Administration Reports of the States and reports of various Committees and Commissions published by the State Governments and the Centrally Administered Areas for the use of research scholars.

National Archives of India: This Department have received the Annual Administration Reports during 1977 from the following State Governments and Union Territories: (1) Bihar, (2) Gujarat, (3) Haryana, (4) Kerala, (5) Maharashtra, (6) Karnataka, (7) Orissa, (8) Punjab, (9) Tamil Nadu, (10) Uttar Pradesh, (11) West Bengal, (12) Andhra Pradesh and (13) Delhi. The others are being reminded.

II. Resolutions of the 41st Session, Trivandrum, 9th-11th October, 1971.

Resolution III: The Indian Historical Records Commission places on record its appreciation of the steps taken by the National Archives of India during the last two years for expediting the compilation of reference media to the various series of the records in its custody. But, as the volume of records for which the reference media has to be prepared is very large, the Government of India is urged to sanction adequate staff for this essential aspect of Archives Administration. Similar programmes may be taken up by State Archives Departments also which face the same problem.

Jammu & Kashmir: The case is under consideration of the Government.

Sikkim: As the State Archives has been recently started and is being organised, the resolution is still under Government's consideration.

Assam: Due note has been taken of the resolution and adequate measures are being taken.

Resolution V: The Commission is of the view that it is imperative to take all necessary steps to ensure the proper maintenance and preservation of all Public Records in the States, whether current, semi-current or non-current. The State Governments are, therefore, requested to implement urgently the recommendations already made by the Commission (vide Resolutions VII and XIII of the 38th Session) and (i) transfer all District Records more than 30 years old to the control of the State Archives, and (ii) declare their Directors of State Archives to be inspecting authority for the non-current records of the State Offices at all levels as also of the local bodies viz. Municipalities, Zilla Parishads etc., in the State.

Orissa: This resolution is now under active consideration of the Government.

Jammu & Kashmir: The Government has not taken any decision in this behalf so far. The case is being pursued.

Sikkim: As the State Archives has been recently started and is still being organized, the resolution is under consideration of the Government.

West Bengal: The matter is under consideration of the State Government.

Assam: The existing Record Office is the custodian of the old records of the State Secretariat only. So unless a State Archives is set up, there is no scope to make it an abode of District Records or Records of other local bodies. The proposal to set up the State Archives has already been initiated.

Haryana: Steps are being taken to acquire non-current and semi-current files which are more than 30 years old. The Director has been declared inspecting authority for the current records of the Government offices at all level as well as of local bodies.

Resolution VI: The Commission reiterates its recommendation earlier made in Resolution VI of the Research and Publication Committee at its 27th Meeting, and urges that Archives Departments in India should take early steps to compile lists of their old publications which are still in demand and try to get limited number of their copies reprinted.

Punjab: The State Government was moved to sanction a sum of rupees one lakh to reprint rare and out of print books, a list of which was also sent to them. Due to shortage of funds, the Government have expressed their inability to sanction the requisite amount. Efforts are, however, being made to get the amount sanctioned next year for this programme.

Resolution VII: This Commission appeals to the concerned authorities of Temples, Gurdwaras, Churches, Khankhas, Waqfs etc. to allow bonafide research scholars to consult their documents for research pruposes, and the scholars who are allowed access to these records may, if necessary, voluntarily prepare the lists of these records.

and

Resolution VIII: This Commission appeals to the authorities maintaining the records of the Temples, Maths, Churches, Mosques, Gurdwaras etc. to ensure their proper preservation, and if possible, to deposit these documents with the various Archives or Learned Institutions for safe custody.

Orissa: An appeal was sent to the authorities of the Temples, Maths, Churches, Mosques, Gurdwaras, etc., in this behalf. But no response has been received from these institutions.

Jammu & Kashmir: The Government has already been approached in this behalf.

No. 6/79-C
Indian Historical Records Commission,
National Archives of India,
Janpath,
New Delhi-110001, the 25 AUG 1980

To

Sir,

I am forwarding herewith a copy of the proceedings of 46th Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission held at Aurangabad in January, 1979 for your use.

Yours faithfully,

S.B. Roy

for Secretary,
Indian Historical Records Commission.

Sikkim: As the State Archives has been recently started and is being organised, the resolution is still under the consideration of the Government.

Assam: The resolutions have been noted for future guidance.

Resolution XI: The Commission places on record its appreciation of the effective and energetic steps taken by its Secretary in implementing some of its important recommendations, such as those concerning the preparation of the Manual of Archives, and the publication of records pertaining to Partition and Transfer of Power, and the compilation of reference media. It also approves of the policy of issuing cyclostyled publications, particularly the reference media to records, with a view to facilitating research. Similar steps may also be taken by the State Directors of Archives.

Orissa: The resolution has been accepted in principle.

Sikkim: As the State Archives has been recently started and is being organised, the resolution is still under Government's consideration.

Assam: The resolution has been noted for future guidance.

Resolution XII: Keeping in view the enormous problems created by the evergrowing bulk of records the Commission appreciates the lead presently given by the National Archives of India and the Department of Administrative Reforms, Government of India, in the sphere of management of the records of the Union Government and their time bound appraisal. It also notes with satisfaction the steps taken by some State Government for weeding of their non-essential records. The Commission urges all those State Governments and Union Territories which have not yet initiated such a programme on a regular basis to do so urgently with a view to economising in the long run in the upkeep and preservation of their permanent records. The concerned governments may consult, if necessary, the National Archives of India for this purpose.

Sikkim: As the State Archives has been recently started and is being organized, the resolution is still under consideration of the Government.

Assam: The resolution has been noted for future guidance.

Punjab: The Government has sent instructions to all the departments/offices in the State to weed out their non-essential records on a regular basis so that permanent records could be preserved more economically.

Andhra Pradesh: With a view to determine the lines on which the problems of weeding out non-essential records in the State Archives should be tackled, a Task Force has been constituted by the Government with a view to examine all the aspects in this regard and make its recommendations. It has also been decided to create a Central Cell for weeding of records in General Administration Department to clear the backlog of records of erstwhile Hyderabad Government under an officer of the rank of Assistant Secretary to the Government, preferably one who knows Urdu. It was decided to depute staff from State Archives for checking the records marked for destruction from historical point of view during the weeding process.

Resolution XIII: The Indian Historical Records Commission recommends to all the State Archives to provide facilities for the supply of microfilms or typed copies of 'open' records to bonafide research scholars on payment without any undue delay.

Sikkim: As the State Archives has been recently started and is being organized, the resolution is still under consideration of the Government.

Resolution XIV: Resolved that the State Governments be requested to open Regional, or Divisional Archives in each Commissioner's Division, where the non-ephemeral records of all the Collectorates etc. in the Division may be collected and preserved under the overall control and supervision of the Director of the State Archives. This is absolutely essential for the purpose of not only preservation of papers, but also for promoting the writing of regional history.

Orissa: Steps will be taken to open Regional or Divisional Archives in the Sixth Five Year Plan.

Sikkim: As the State Archives has been recently started and is being organized the resolution is still under consideration of the Government.

Punjab: The Government has already sanctioned a scheme, "Setting up of a Regional Repository at Divisional Level", for establishing a Regional Repository at Jullundur. The repository will be opened as soon as the arrangements for building are made.

Resolution XV: Resolved that the Commission recommends to the authorities of the National Archives of India and of the State Archives to make available to bonafide research scholars residential accommodation at reasonable rates. Furthermore, it recommends for the consideration of the Ministry of Education at the Centre and in the States to put up hostels which will cater to the needs of such research scholars.

Jammu & Kashmir: The case is being processed by the Government.

Sikkim: As the State Archives has been recently started and is being organized, the resolution is still under consideration of the Government.

III. Resolutions of the 42nd Session, Panaji (Goa), 5th-7th January, 1973.

Resolution IV: The Commission recommends that suitable notice be taken by the Government of India and the State Governments, of the meritorious service of those who had carefully preserved private records, either by preserving those records themselves or by depositing them for safe custody in a properly organised Records Repository or a suitable learned Institution.

National Archives of India: The resolution was accepted by the Government of India in the Ministry of Home Affairs. National Archives of India has forwarded the names of those persons and institutions, recommended by State Governments, who have carefully preserved their private records for issuing necessary certificates in recognition of their services. The resolution is being processed with the Ministry of Education, Social Welfare and Culture to work out modus operandi for issuing such certificates.

Resolution VI: Resolved that keeping in view the urgency of salvaging and preserving the extremely valuable Government records lying in various offices in the District Headquarters and in the various field offices of the Central and State Governments, the Central and State Governments be strongly urged to open maximum number of Intermediate Record Centres on priority basis, within their respective areas, to collect, list and preserve these records. These Record Centres should be fully manned with qualified staff and equipped with repair and reprographic facilities. The facilities should be available, not only for the Government records but should also be extended to the libraries, learned institutions and individual scholars who have valuable private records, manuscripts etc. in their possession.

Andhra Pradesh: The State Archives is making necessary provision in the Plan Budget for the purchase of modern equipment and materials for equipping the Regional Archives with repair and reprographic facilities and extending them to private individuals and institutions.

Orissa: The resolution is under active consideration of the Government.

Sikkim: As the State Archives has been only recently started and is being organised, the resolution is still under consideration of the Government.

Resolution VII: Resolved that the Central and State Governments may be requested to throw open records relating to persons and parties involved in the political movements during pre-independence days which were in the custody of the Central Intelligence Bureau, the State Police Departments and Departments of Criminal Investigation for the use of research scholars.

Sikkim: As the State Archives has been recently started and is being organised, the resolution is still under consideration of the Government.

Assam: The resolution has been noted for future guidance.

Resolution IX: Resolved that this body requests the State Governments to enact a law to bring under overall supervision of the State Archival Services records preserved by private bodies like maths, temples, churches, societies, libraries, museums, universities and learned institutions in their respective States.

Andhra Pradesh: The resolution is under active consideration of the Government.

Gujarat:

Some control over the management and maintenance of records created by private bodies in the State will be exercised. In view of the greater responsibilities and additional financial commitments, the State Government does not consider it feasible at present to enact a law in question. The State Government is of the opinion that a uniform law in this respect embodying the general principles enacted by the Government of India will be more effective than separate laws enacted by different State Governments.

Haryana: The resolution is under consideration of the Government.

Sikkim: As the State Archives has recently been set up and is being organized, the resolution is still under consideration of the Government.

Assam: This question may conveniently be taken up after setting up of the State Archives.

Resolution XI: Resolved that all State Governments should evolve as early as possible a well articulated retirement policy for their records and prepare retention schedules for records at all levels in line with the rules of the Central Government.

Kerala: Evolving a well articulated retirement policy of records and preparation of retention schedules for records in line with the rules of the Central Government will be included in the "Archives Manual", compilation of which has been undertaken by this Department.

Sikkim: As the State Archives has been recently set up and is being organized, the resolution is still under Government's consideration.

Jammu & Kashmir: The State Government has been approached in this behalf.

West Bengal: The matter is under consideration of the Government and the decision will be communicated in due course.

Assam: The question is being examined though there are certain rules in this regard for this Record Office.

Punjab: The State Government has already constituted a working group of officers for this purpose. A report thereof is still awaited.

of India had not so far made arrangements

Resolution XII: The Commission notes with regret that, in spite of its earlier recommendations, vide Resolution No.IV of its 31st session held in 1955 and Resolution 3(A) of the 36th session held in 1961, the Government of India had not so far made arrangements for the manufacture of the Standard quality Paper recommended by the Indian Standards Institution in consultation with the National Archives of India, with the result that the Union and State Governments, as well as others, were obliged to use low quality paper for their permanent records. The Commission, therefore, strongly recommends that urgent measures be adopted either for manufacturing this paper in India, or for importing it from abroad, as in the long run the use of quality paper for permanent records would not only prove more economical, but is absolutely essential, keeping in view the importance of these records for the future generations.

National Archives of India: M/s Dallarpur Paper Industries who had previously tendered a sample of bond paper for permanent records, have finally succeeded

in developing a paper, 'Sunlit Twist Wrap Bond' which has been found satisfactory. The Mill wanted to know the bulk demand for working out its cost. Requisite data has since been supplied on the basis of the estimate available with this Department viz. 10,000 metric tons per annum. Reply from the Mill is awaited.

Resolution XIII: Resolved that appropriate authorities be moved to direct their attention to the archives of the Municipal Corporations and other Local Bodies, who should be asked to ensure their preservation in properly organised Record Rooms to be looked after by suitable staff. Further resolved that these records be regularly appraised and proper lists or catalogues be prepared of the permanent records, which should be made available for research to bonafide scholars.

Andhra Pradesh: The matter has been taken up with the Local Administration and Social Welfare Department of this Government for necessary action.

Jammu & Kashmir: The matter has been referred to the authorities concerned.

Sikkim: As the State Archives has been recently set up and is being organized, the resolution is still under consideration of the Government.

IV: Resolutions of the 43rd Session held at Lucknow, 28th-29th January, 1975.

Resolution II: The Commission resolves that the Government of India be requested to treat the National Archives of India Annexe as a functional building and to give top priority to its construction, which is absolutely essential for the National Archives of India to effectively discharge its responsibilities, and particularly to implement the Archival Policy resolution which requires it to accept custody of billions of the non-current public records lying scattered and neglected in the various Ministries/Departments of the Government of India.

National Archives of India: The design was approved and Government's sanction was also issued in October 1977. But the construction has not yet started. Certain difficulties encountered have now been overcome, and the work is expected to start soon.

Resolution III: The Commission is greatly perturbed over the reported large scale destruction of old public records in several States, notwithstanding the repeated recommendations of the Commission (Vide Resolution No.II of 1925, Resolution No.VII of 1942, Resolution No.V of 1943, Resolution VI of 1951) and resolves that a Sub-Committee consisting of five Members of the Commission be constituted to investigate and report to the Standing Committee, within six months, on the following:

(a) The extent to which the above resolutions are being implemented;

(b) The period and the nature of records destroyed during the last two years;

(c) The qualifications and suitability of the staff engaged on appraisal of old records; and

(d) The steps which can be taken immediately to ensure the preservation of records of permanent value.

2. The Commission also recommends to the State Governments that no pre-1947 records be destroyed till the said Committee has submitted its report.

National Archives of India: Comments of the Indian Historical Records Commission and views of Director of Archives on the recommendations made by the Record Management Committee were forwarded to the Government of India in the Department of Culture. The decision of the Government is awaited.

Resolution IV: Resolved that every effort should be made to reactivise the Regional Records Survey Committees by seeking as far as possible the assistance of the Indian Council of Historical Research and the University Grants Commission through the Universities already represented on the different Regional Records Survey Committees.

Bihar, Delhi, Orissa, Tripura, Gujarat and Karnataka have reconstituted the Regional Records Survey Committees while the resolution is under consideration of ~~the~~ Punjab.

Resolution VI: The Indian Historical Records Commission strongly recommends that all the State Archives should take immediate steps to declare open their respective records upto December 1945 to bonafide research scholars.

Orissa: The resolution has been accepted by the Government.

Sikkim: As the State Archives has been recently set up and is being organized, the resolution is still under Government's consideration.

Resolution VII: Resolved that a Correspondence Course in Archives Administration be conducted by the National Archives of India for the benefit of the members of the staff working in different offices of the Central and State Governments. The said course may be of one year duration and candidates who have completed at least one year service and are holding regular posts may be allowed to take up the Correspondence Course.

National Archives of India: The Resolution has been accepted and the scheme prepared thereafter has been approved and sanctioned by the Government of India. Preliminary work regarding the preparation of lectures and selection of centres for conducting practical training has been completed. It is hoped to start the course early in 1978.

Recommendation: The Indian Historical Records Commission recommends to the Government of India and the State Governments the desirability of providing facilities in their respective Archival Departments for the microfilming of newspapers and other periodicals, current as well as old, at the request of the owners and proprietors concerned, and conserving one copy in the repository as a record of permanent historical value.

On enquiry, the following information has been obtained:

The issues of the Amrita Bazar Patrika are being microfilmed by the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi, while the microfilm copies of the Searchlight have been damaged.

The Andhra Prabha has no microfilm copies of its issues, while the National Herald is not interested in microfilming its copies.

contd.....

V. Resolutions of the 44th Session held at Bikaner, 21st-22nd February, 1976.

Resolution II: To enable the people to appreciate the historical background of our contemporary national efforts towards a new system of land relations, the National Archives, the different State Archives, and the universities and learned institutions are requested to bring out monographs on relevant subjects, particularly to indicate the evolving pattern of land rights, together with specimens of the different land records at the village level in different parts of the country at different times. The Standing Committee of the Commission is requested to work out a phased programme and to coordinate the countrywide effort.

National Archives of India: The resolution was placed before the Standing Committee at its Seventh Meeting held on 28th November, 1977. The Committee discussed at length the resolution and was of the view that the universities and learned institutions be strongly urged to undertake such publications in cooperation with the National Archives of India/State Archives as they possess the requisite expertise.

Resolution III: Resolved that on behalf of the Indian Historical Records Commission, circulars in the form of appeals be sent to political leaders and men of eminence in different walks of life to preserve their private, demi-official or official correspondence for the benefit of the future.

National Archives of India: A comprehensive list of the eminent persons along with their complete addresses has already been sent to the Education Ministry. It is proposed that after the Education Minister has issued an appeal through the All India Radio, T.V. and Press, the D.O. letters, would be addressed by the Director of Archives to the eminent persons.

Resolution IV: Keeping in view the great importance of records extant in different Indian languages and in Persian, the Commission recommend the publication of selections from these records in extenso, with translations, annotations and critical introductions, for the convenience of scholars not familiar with the old languages and scripts in question. The Standing Committee of the Commission is requested to coordinate the programme and to indicate priorities.

National Archives of India: The National Archives of India has a comprehensive programme of publication of records in Persian and different Indian Languages. It is, therefore, not in a position to undertake new programme in view of paucity of qualified staff well versed in these languages and scripts. As far as teaching of Persian and the different Indian languages is concerned the National Archives of India is of the view that the purpose would better be served if some incentive in the form of increment or special language pay is given to those who privately acquire proficiency in such languages and scripts.

Circular letters were issued to all the State Archives/Universities/Learned Institutions, requesting them to draw up a programme for publications of selections from the records in Persian and other Indian Languages in the respective regions and suggest priorities for their publications. The State Archives of Rajasthan, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat have agreed to extend cooperation to the project. Karnataka is willing to undertake the responsibility of editing and publication of selections from records while Tamil Nadu and the Union Territory of Pondicherry are not in a position to undertake the project. The resolution is under consideration of Punjab, Kerala and Sikkim.

The Resolution was placed before the Standing Committee at its Seventh Meeting held on 28th November, 1977. The Committee discussed at length the resolution and was of the opinion that the universities and learned institutions be strongly urged to undertake such publications in cooperation with the National Archives of India/State Archives as they possess the requisite expertise.

Resolution V: The Commission notes with regret that many Union Territories and the following States have not yet set up their State Archives Departments: (1) Assam (2) Madhya Pradesh, (3) Meghalaya, (4) Himachal Pradesh, (5) Manipur, (6) Tripura, (7) Sikkim and (8) Nagaland. The Commission makes an earnest request to the authorities of all these States/Union Territories to set up their Archival Departments on modern scientific lines as early as possible. The National Archives of India is requested to extend all help and cooperation in this regard.

Madhya Pradesh, Sikkim and Nagaland have set up their Archives Departments.

Lakshadweep: There is no scope for establishing a separate Department for Archives.

Resolution VI: Resolved that the posts of the Director of Archives both at the Centre as well as in the States be filled up only by those who possess archival qualifications or have adequate experience of holding some responsible post in an archival repository of the country.

Andhra Pradesh: The rules of recruitment for the post of Director of Archives provide for a special study of Archives Administration including preservation by the incumbent holding the post.

Assam: The resolution has been noted for future guidance.

Resolution VIII: Resolved that an Oral History Record Office be established as a part of the National Archives whose purpose should be to record on tape and then transcribe the recollections of men who have played an important part in recent history as well as the reactions of those who have seen history made. The different State Archives should also take up this urgent work.

National Archives of India: The resolution is under consideration of the Government of India.

Kerala: Every effort will be made to implement the directions contained in the resolution subject to the limitations of the Department of Archives. The first step in this direction has been taken for the purchase of a good quality of tape recorder.

Sikkim: As the State Archives has been recently set up and is being organized, the resolution is under consideration of the Government.

West Bengal: The Archives functions mainly as custodian of Government records and at present there is no scheme to extend its activities. The proposed work may be taken up by other research institutions/universities of the States and copies of the tape transcription of the recollections thus recorded may be preserved in the State Archives.

Jammu and Kashmir: The resolution is under process.

Rajasthan: The question of establishing an Oral History Record Office during the current financial year is under consideration. In this connection, about 150 freedom fighters have been contacted and efforts to purchase Tape Recorder etc. are being made.

Assam: It has been noted for future guidance.

Gujarat: The Government is exploring the possibility of setting up of an Oral History Record Office.

Resolution IX: While congratulating the Union Minister for Education and Social Welfare, for implementing several long awaited reforms, such as the promulgation of the Archival Policy Resolution and elevation of the National Archives of India as an Attached Office of the Ministry, the Commission reiterates the urgency of constructing the proposed Annexe to the National Archives of India as quickly as possible, as without it no significant improvement in the preservation and utilisation of Archives is now possible.

National Archives of India: The design was approved and Government's sanction was also issued in October 1977. But the construction has not yet started. Certain difficulties encountered have now been overcome, and the work is expected to start soon.

VI. Resolutions of the 45th Session, Mysore, 1st-2nd February, 1977.

Resolution I: The Members of the Indian Historical Records Commission assembled at Mysore for the 45th Session of the Commission deeply mourn the death of Nawab Ali Yawar Jang, Dr. Dasrath Sharma, Dr. Domingo Abella, Prof. Sri Ram Sharma, Prof. Narsimha Rao and resolves that sincere condolences of the Commission be conveyed to the next of their kin.

National Archives of India: Condolences of the Commission were conveyed to the members of the bereaved families.

Resolution II: Resolved to reiterate the earlier resolutions that the Universities should organise Archival Cells for preserving their records on scientific lines. It is further recommended that necessary assistance may be obtained from the University Grants Commission in this behalf.

Gauhati University: A proposal regarding establishing Archival Cell has been submitted to the University Grants Commission.

Karnataka University: The University is exploring the possibility of setting up of an Archival Cell.

Sardar Patel University: The University has sent a proposal for the establishment of an Archival Cell in the University to the University Grants Commission and has also requested to sanction necessary grants for the purpose.

Guru Nanak Dev University: A proposal for establishment of an Archival Cell in this University has been sent to the University Grants Commission and a grant of Rs. 1 lakh has already been allocated by the Commission for construction of building for Archival Cell.

Saurashtra University: Move for establishment of an Archival Cell in the University is on the way and a proposal has been sent to the University Grants Commission in this regard.

Dibrugarh University: Since 1973 this institution is running an Archival Cell in a very moderate form. For the effective development of the existing cell, a proposal for financial assistance was sent to the University Grants Commission.

Shreemati Nathibai Damodar Thackersey Women's University: The University has established Post-graduate department in History very recently and as such, it has not been possible to create Archival Cell in this University. This matter will be considered once the Post-graduate department in History is stablised.

Utkal University: The University is shortly going to open an Archival Cell, and post of an Archivist has already been sanctioned by the Senate of the University. The Cell will begin to operate after the appointment of Archivist.

Burdwan University: The University is not properly equipped financially or otherwise for immediate action in the matter which, however, is receiving active consideration. Any decision taken in future in this behalf would be communicated in due course.

Sri Venkateshwara University: An Archival Cell was established in 1972.

Bhagalpur University: The University has moved the State Government and University Grants Commission for sanctioning the scheme.

Ravishankar University: The University is making efforts for setting up of an Archival Cell in the University. On request an outline of the scheme along with the guidelines in this behalf was sent to the University from the National Archives of India.

Kurukshetra University: The resolution is under consideration of the University and necessary decision will be communicated as and when the same is finalized.

The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda: The University is not in a position to start the Archival Cell.

Gujarat University: The University is exploring the possibility of setting up of an Archival Cell there.

Resolution III: In view of the importance and urgent necessity of preserving old records, resolved that the State Governments be requested to give high priority to the development of Archives in their 6th Plan proposals, and that the Central Government should give special grants for specific schemes to the extent possible.

Goa: The resolution has been accepted and the funds have been provided in the Fifth Five Year Plan Schemes in this behalf.

Delhi: The Scheme of Delhi Archives is a plan project and the funds are allocated on year to year basis by the Planning Commission on the recommendations of the Plan Board of the Union Territory of Delhi. There has been no difficulty as far as the allotment of funds or diversion thereof is concerned. Since the scheme has already been included in the Fifth Five Year Plan the same will

automatically continue in the next Five Year Plan. Obviously, in the present situation, separate funds are already allocated for the development of archives.

Jammu and Kashmir: The resolution has been forwarded to the Government with the request that top priority to the development of archives be given and a separate fund to this effect created.

Karnataka: The State Archives has agreed to the resolution and recommended it to the State Government for its implementation.

Rajasthan: The resolution has been forwarded to the Government for favourable consideration.

Punjab: The resolution is under consideration of the Government.

Maharashtra: The resolution has been forwarded to the Government for favourable consideration.

West Bengal: The Development of Archives has already been included as a separate head in the Sixth Plan budget of the State and in annual budget a separate fund has been kept apart for the development of archives as a plan item and funds thus allocated are fully utilized for specific purpose.

Haryana: The Government have no objection to the acceptance of the resolution subject to the availability of funds for its implementation.

Sikkim: The resolution is under consideration of the Government.

Uttar Pradesh: The matter of allocating adequate finances for the development of regional archives at Varanasi, Nainital and the State Archives at Lucknow in the Sixth Five Year Plan, is under ~~the~~ consideration of the State Government.

Pondicherry: Government of Pondicherry has agreed to transfer the administrative control of Pondicherry Archives to National Archives of India. However, proposals for organising Archives, so as to preserve the records of Post independence period will be included in Sixth Five Year Plan.

Gujarat: The Government will keep the resolution in view at the time of the formation of the Sixth Five Year Plan and will take necessary steps to utilize the funds allotted by the Planning Commission to the maximum extent possible.

Lakshadweep: The administration has to offer no comments in this matter.

Resolution IV: Resolved that a system of 'National Readers Cards' be introduced, as it would facilitate and encourage genuine research in the country, and custodians of records at the all India as well as the State level, should honour these cards.

National Archives of India: A standard form for the Readers Cards has been prepared and all the State Archives have been consulted. The suggestions received are being processed and a card commanding the widest acceptance is being finalised by the National Archives of India.

Some States (Andhra Pradesh and Orissa), however, have stressed that the National Readers Cards will be really useful and practicable only when a degree of uniformity has been achieved in research rules throughout the country West Bengal State Archives has stated that the question of introducing National Readers Cards at this office does not arise, since there is no delay in ~~xxx~~ West Bengal in issuing cards.

Recommendations, 45th Session, Mysore, 1977.

(a) * * * After some discussion about the rules of access to Government Records, the President stated that this matter had already been discussed in many previous sessions of the Commission, and the Secretary of the Commission and the Chairman of the Standing Committee would continue their efforts to bring to the notice of the State Governments concerned the recommendations of the Commission for further liberalisation of the access rules.

National Archives of India: All the State Archives were requested to send the rules governing access to their respective records for the bonafide research s holars. The required information have been received and further efforts will be made to secure liberalisation of the rules.

(b) Recommendation regarding compilation of a list of eminent persons by National Archives of India.

National Archives of India: On the basis of the information received from the States/Union Territories, Archives of Haryana, West Bengal, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra; and the Universities of Gauhati, Ravi Shankar, Karnataka and Osmania, and Regional Record Survey Committee, Tripura a list is being compiled for further necessary action.

(c) Recommendation regarding preparation of a list of residential facilities available for scholars at Delhi and at different State capitals by National Archives of India.

In pursuance of the recommendation, information of the National Archives of India as well as the State/Union Territory Archives as detailed below have been sent to the Members of the Commission.

National Archives of India: The bonafide research scholars can avail themselves of Sapru House and Jawaharlal Nehru University Hostel (New Delhi) accommodation at reasonable rates. Five research scholars were provided accommodation facilities during 1975-76 and seven in 1976-77 there.

Uttar Pradesh: The research scholars can avail themselves of the residential accommodation at reasonable rates at the following places:

1. Young Men's Christian Association, Lucknow.
2. Young Women's Christian Association, Lucknow.
3. State Tourism House, Lucknow.
4. Lucknow University Guest House, Lucknow.

Rajasthan: A big room with four beds is available and Government has been requested to provide it by charging Rs.2/- per bed.

Kerala: State Archives has no residential facilities of its own. However, the places where three repositories are situated, i.e. Trivandrum, Calicut and Cochin have good lodging houses suitable for research scholars.

Pondicherry: The number of the visiting research scholars being very small, there is no problem in accommodating them in private lodges located close to the Archives.

Nagaland: Accommodation is available in M.L.A's Hostel and also in the Circuit House.

Maharashtra: Residential facilities are provided in M.L.A's hostel when possible.

Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Assam, Orissa, Haryana, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal have no residential facilities.

Goa, Karnataka, Gujarat, Punjab, ~~xxxxxx~~ Assam, Orissa, Jammu and Kashmir are making efforts in this direction.

(d) Recommendation regarding proper maintenance and preservation of records in Muffassil Offices at district and village level.

National Archives of India: The Recommendation was placed before the Standing Committee at its Seventh Meeting held on 28th November, 1977. The Committee examined the various aspects of the Recommendation in respect of maintenance of records in Muffassil Offices at district and village level and was of the view that setting up of a Committee would not solve such a multidimensional problem. It felt that the State Governments should be urged to make adequate arrangements for the scientific preservation of such records.

PAPER NO. I

INDIAN HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION

FORTY-SIXTH SESSION

In the Trivandrum session Resolutions VII & VIII relate to records of religious bodies

A G E N D A

BUSINESS SESSION

~~17TH~~ JANUARY, 1979

AURANGABAD

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